



FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT of
CORRECTIONS

Governor

RICK SCOTT

Secretary

JULIE L. JONES

501 South Calhoun Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-2500

<http://www.dc.state.fl.us>

August 7, 2017

Agit Pai, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Received & Inspected

AUG 16 2017

FCC Mail Room

Re: **GN Docket 13-111, FC 17-25, Promoting Technological Solutions to Combat Contraband Wireless Device Use in Correctional Facility**

Dear Chairman Pai and Secretary Dortch:

I am very appreciative of the time that has been spent by you and the staff of your respective agencies to listen and consider the requests of my fellow colleagues related to our concerns regarding contraband cell phones within our state correctional institutions. I am writing today to express my full support of Association of State Correctional Administrators (ASCA) President Leann Bertsch's request to amend your proposed rule to include technology that allows prisons to prevent the use of cell phones and to provide stringent measures to ensure carrier cooperation with beacon technology, managed access technology, and future technologies. In addition, I am hopeful that you will consider requiring wireless carriers to cooperate and participate in the development of beacon technology, as referenced in your proposed rule. It is my understanding that this technology would use software to provide a 100% solution while allowing "whitelisting" by correctional agencies as appropriate.

Contraband cell phones pose a significant security threat within the prison system and our ability to ensure the safety of the public is compromised by the devices existing within our secure perimeters. Conversations via landline phones are monitored in accordance with law, to ensure the safety and security of our institutions. Contraband cell phones act as unmonitored devices that facilitate inmate's efforts to circumvent the monitoring system when conspiring to participate in illegal activity to include activity directly impacting the safety of the public.

In Florida, we've seen positive results in own programs aimed at stopping the use of contraband cell phones. Today, Florida has three facilities actively participating in pilot programs utilizing managed access technology. These programs are focused on housing units within the prison complex and have proven successful, both in intercepting and identifying contraband devices, as well as eliminating any potential environmental impact in the community.

Thank you for your attention to these issues and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Julie L. Jones
Secretary